

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In addition, the protein of the present invention may contain conventional tag sequences, such as an antigenic epitope. Examples of tag sequences include FLAG (MDYKDDDDK) (SEQ ID NO: 13), T7 (MASMTGGQQMG) (SEQ ID NO: 14), HSV (SQPELAPEDPED) (SEQ ID NO: 15), S (KETAAAKFERQHMDs) (SEQ ID NO: 16), Myc (EQKLISEEDL) (SEQ ID NO: 17), His (HHHHHHHH) (SEQ ID NO: 18) and HA (YPYDVPDYA) (SEQ ID NO: 19) (the above sequences in parentheses are shown in 1-letter amino acid abbreviation). When the tag sequence is present in the C-terminal region or the N-terminal region of the C5L2 protein, the detection of the protein by flow cytometry or western blotting (immunoblotting) becomes easy.--